

His administration has also shut down the congressionally authorized oil and gas program in the 1002 Area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska and has threatened industry with regulation and increased royalties, which will significantly impact investment in new energy production. Indeed, the large financiers are already backing away due to their ESG idealism and the intimidation by the government to do so.

ANWR is actually 19.6 million acres. The 1002 Area is a small fraction of that total area, and the actual drilling itself will take place on an even smaller fraction of that, as well.

Most recently, the Biden administration has scrapped a court-ordered offshore 5-year lease in the Gulf of Mexico. This could likely spell a complete ban on offshore leases until the end of his whole term.

What does he expect is going to happen? Well, we are seeing it, and the people are feeling it: \$5 gas nationally; \$6, \$6.50 in California, where everything is more expensive; \$7 for diesel.

How do they expect that trucks are going to deliver items to the store or trucks are going to bring things from manufacturing facilities to distribution centers or from the field to the dryer, to the mill, the fertilizer brought to the field, the seed brought to the field? All these things, how do they expect they are going to happen with \$7 fuel and higher?

The expectations are it is not going to get better anytime soon. We have seen proposals by the Biden administration to relieve the gas tax and diesel tax, which is about 18.4 cents per gallon on gas and 24.4 on diesel. I think we would always be happy to take a reduction in taxes, whether it is temporary or not, but it is not going to make but a tiny impact on \$5, \$6, \$7 fuel.

What we need is production. Production will alter the market. When they are hesitant or reluctant or just flat saying no to increasing production, especially in a worldwide market where we had been relying on Russia for some reason for about 8 percent of our oil consumption, yes, we need to replace that.

We shouldn't buy anything from Russia. We shouldn't really be buying anything from China. Why do we want to be dependent on them for anything? Solar panels? Our energy policy in this country needs to be turned on its ear and put back to something that favors Americans.

They are blaming everything under the Sun for these rising costs except for the policies they are putting in place. The President is blaming MAGA Republicans. What does that even mean? How does that make sense?

Washington, D.C., has been under one-party rule for the last couple of years. It is clear: The price hikes we are seeing at the gas pump are caused directly by the Biden administration's anti-American, anti-energy policies. His exact words while campaigning

were: "No more drilling on Federal lands. No more drilling, including offshore. No ability for the oil industry to continue to drill, period. It ends."

Well, you are seeing the effects, and it is unaffordable for people. Normal folks don't have discretionary income to even get through an emergency, in a lot of cases, within their family, and we keep heaping this upon their backs, for their energy needs, driving their vehicles, and heating their homes.

We are taking away natural gas. There are areas moving to do that. Cities and certain other jurisdictions want to say no more natural gas for your stoves, heaters, and such. They want it to be all electric.

These hostile actions are, indeed, creating long-term uncertainty. We are seeing the futures contracts for energy are staying high.

How much longer can we do this? How long will they be in place that way? Less drilling results in higher oil prices, which means higher gas prices for consumers. It is that simple. It is not rocket science.

Instead, the President is traveling to Saudi Arabia to beg for them to send more of their oil to us. We have the reserves in many States in our own country that we can be tapping into and doing it more ecologically soundly and certainly more economically soundly. He would rather, I guess, lie in the pockets of OPEC oligarchs than create the high-paying jobs we have right here and do it well.

We know that American energy is the cleanest and safest in the world. It is much cleaner than natural gas that Russia was sending to Western Europe and now is cutting off from them. Well, that is a surprise, isn't it? Germany gets rid of their nuclear power plants and cuts back on other forms of energy, and now instead, because they cannot rely on Russian gas coming in through the big pipe, they are having to restoke their coal-fired plants.

Isn't that amazing? You actually go backward on environmental issues when you don't plan, when you can't foresee what might happen with what Russia would do.

We could be a major exporter, and we should be a major exporter, helping our European allies and helping Americans have jobs and decently priced energy that comes from our own country.

#### CHANGING THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM FROM INSIDE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to talk about the nearly half a million young people in our Nation's child welfare system.

Last month was National Foster Care Month, a time for our country to come together to acknowledge the half million people in our system, the hundreds of thousands who work within the system day in and day out, and the mil-

lions of adults who have exited the system and are no longer in care.

No one knows the child welfare system like the foster youth who have grown up in the system. Today, the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth and the National Foster Youth Institute have brought more than 35 young people from all over the country to shadow their Members of Congress. I would like to take a second to thank the Members of Congress who are spending this morning learning from a constituent and delegate of the program about their personal experiences and ideas to make impactful change in the child welfare system.

Each year, our participants have a real hand in making change. From the Chafee Grant extensions to the passage of the Families First Prevention Services Act to securing COVID relief for foster youth, this group's voices have changed our child welfare system forever.

As a matter of fact, when COVID first struck and none of us in the country knew what to do, the young people who were members of the National Foster Youth Institute contacted Members of Congress and said: While you are passing legislation to address the pandemic, don't forget us because we have very specific needs. And Members of Congress responded.

When we put together the emergency packages, we took their input. We took specifically what they requested, such as the Chafee Grant extensions and other extensions of programs, and put it into law and made sure that they had resources.

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The reality is this: When the government removes children from their parents, the government becomes that child's parent. Too often, the government forgets this commitment, and life goes on for those not in the child welfare system; but for those in it, they come to feel trapped and forgotten.

These young people here today have traveled thousands of miles to share their stories of their challenges with abuse, trafficking, overmedication, and homelessness. In addition, they are sharing their successes with mentorship, adoption, family reunification, community activism, and independent living. They are resilient and have the ability to navigate challenges in their life and succeed, even in spite of their hardships. Their goal is to leave Congress with a better understanding of the reality faced today by our Nation's youth in care.

I will share some words from Xandra Ruby Vaughn, who is shadowing me this morning. She told me just yesterday that her time in care helped shape the person she is today. While in care, she saw that resources for foster youth, especially when it came to education, were hard to find and hard to access. She manages a Facebook page of resources for foster youth of all ages, assisting them with finding and assessing

housing support, educational funds, and mental health services.

While in college, she experienced firsthand the impact of age requirements for former foster youth to receive assistance, a problem she would like lawmakers to pay attention to, to better help the former foster youth in our district.

There are several other young people that are here with me today. Jennifer Martinez is a former foster youth from Los Angeles who is now a foster youth advocate.

Amber Rosado-Esteves entered the child welfare system when she was 14 and aged out when she was 18, and now she is very successful in college.

Anthony Vizcarrondo spent 10 years in foster care, from the ages of 6 to 16, in California's Central Valley. His placements included foster homes and juvenile hall. Anthony is a strong foster youth advocate who is focused on expanding educational opportunities and child welfare reform.

Between her placements in foster care and being behind by 19 credits, Lucinda "Lucy" Langley thought she had no chance of graduating high school. But after years of hard work, that is exactly what she did.

Sapphire Murphy Powell also joined us all the way from New Zealand.

We need to understand, as a country, and as a Congress, that when we address the child welfare system, this is a way of preventing these children from becoming homeless. In the city of Los Angeles alone, we have 50,000 people who sleep on the street every night. We have tents all over our city, and in those tents, there are thousands of young people who aged out of the foster care system when they were 18 or 21. Essentially, what we have done as a society is cut them off of resources, and they wind up on the streets, they wind up incarcerated, or they wind up trafficked. This is a failure of the system, the system that we are responsible for.

Our country is the richest country in the history of the world, and there is no excuse for us not to take care of the half million young people in the foster care system. This is why we need to transform the system.

#### HONORING TERRY DICKSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Terry Dickson for his achievement of being named a recipient of the American Patriot Award.

During the Vietnam war, Terry served as an infantry squad leader in the 196th Light Infantry Brigade and received the distinction of the Combat Infantryman Badge for his incredible service.

After his service, he began a career at the Florida Times-Union where he became an award-winning newspaper

photographer and wrote pieces on a wide variety of subjects.

Terry has worked at The Brunswick News in my district since 2019, where he continues to work as reporter, photographer, and pens a weekly column.

Terry has received many awards at the local, State, Federal, and even international levels for his work, both in columns and photography.

Among a list of incredible past recipients, Terry is adding his name onto an honorable group of American patriots.

The American Patriot Award is a given to a veteran who has served their country with distinction and continued that throughout their career.

Terry is the epitome of this award, serving tremendously in the Vietnam war and as a journalist following his service.

I congratulate Terry for receiving this incredible award. He deserves it.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING ACCREDITATION BOARD

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation Board, FLETA, as they celebrate their 20th anniversary on July 1, 2022.

The FLETA board of directors, located in my district, is comprised of 28 senior officials from varying Federal law enforcement agencies, academia, and professional organizations.

Since the FLETA Board's inception, more than 75 training organizations, spanning from 47 agencies and 10 departments across the executive and judicial branches of the Government, have submitted training programs for voluntary review and have sought accreditation through FLETA, in which they have completed 389 of those assessments.

The FLETA Office of Accreditation is one of smallest entities in the Federal Government, with only seven Government employees. Yet, they have an extensive impact on Federal training and operations.

FLETA assists law enforcement agencies in virtually every department of the Federal Government, improving operations through the implementation of more effective and efficient training tactics.

The mission of FLETA is more important now than ever before. This agency's efforts are demonstrative of good government in action, practicing accountability through self-regulation, which exhibits the transparency that Americans expect of their government.

On behalf of the citizens of Georgia and this distinguished body, I once again congratulate FLETA on their 20th anniversary and wish them much continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING DON HOGAN

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of my friend, Don Hogan, a State house representative, a county commissioner, and a fellow Bulldog.

Don received an education from both Georgia Southern University and the University of Georgia.

He has served as a board member of the Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce, president of the Saint Simons Chamber of Commerce, area commissioner for the Boy Scouts of America, and on the advisory council of the Coastal Area Planning and Development Commission.

I am honored to recognize Don as the 42nd recipient of the Alfred W. Jones, Sr. award. This award is given each year to honor a person whose selfless lifetime commitment, contributions, and achievements have positively impacted our community and its people.

After many years of service, Don has decided not to run for reelection this November and will be going into retirement after a lengthy career of service to others.

I know Don is looking forward to spending time on his family farm, fishing, and telling stories sitting on the porch of his 150-year-old log cabin.

It was a pleasure and an honor to spend time with Don in the Georgia State legislature. I thank him for everything he has done for our State, and he should enjoy his well-deserved retirement.

#### AMERICAN FAMILIES ARE SUFFERING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, with gas prices at or above \$5 per gallon, Americans are feeling significant pain at the pump. In a recent survey of my constituents, 89 percent said they have had to change or cancel their summer travel plans due to the surge in gas prices. What a shame.

I have also heard stories about how the gas prices, coupled with crippling inflation, have eaten into my constituents' savings and made it extremely difficult for families to make ends meet. These are the realities families throughout our country are facing. Yet, this administration and many of my colleagues in this Chamber appear to be out of touch with these concerns.

Instead of taking action to relieve the pain at the pump, President Biden and Congressional Democrats continue to blame, deflect, and justify the irresponsible decisions that have caused gas prices to spike.

Earlier this week, the President said: "Out of everything lousy, something good will happen if you look hard enough for it."

"We have a chance to make a fundamental turn toward renewable energy, electric vehicles—and not just electric vehicles but across the board."

No, Mr. President, record-high gas prices are not a good thing. It is disingenuous to act as though you are powerless, Mr. President, to do anything to address gas prices. My constituents do not want to suffer while this administration and Congressional Democrats continue to pursue a radical, green agenda.